

**Remarks:**

Each of original claims 22, 23, 24, 28, 31, 34, 37, 41, 43 and 46 was an improper multiple dependent claim because each of these claims depends from two or more preceding claims. In each of said claims, the references to a preceding claim referred to the preceding claim for a definition of a component. Each of said references to a preceding claim for the purpose of a definition of a component was amended by replacing the reference to the preceding claim with the definition of the component taken from said preceding claim. Thus, original claim 22 which depended from claim 1 for the definition of one component and from claim 10 for the definition of another component was amended by inserting the said two definitions in place of the respective references to claims 1 and 10. The present amendment to each of claims 22, 23 and 24 results in each of these claims becoming an independent claim. The amendment of each of the remaining currently amended claims results in each of these claims becoming a proper dependent claim because each depends only from one preceding claim.

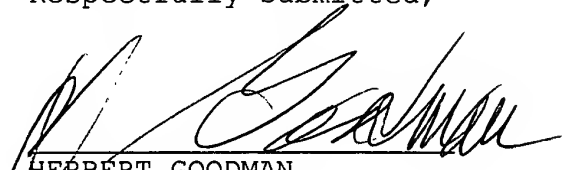
The original claims included only one independent claim. The present currently amended claims include four independent claims (claims 1, 22, 23 and 24). Accordingly, an additional

Appln. No. 10/665,459  
Prel. Amdt. dated April 29, 2004

filing fee for one independent claim in excess of three, is required. Please apply the enclosed check in the amount of \$86.00 as the additional filing fee.

Entry of the present amendment is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
HERBERT GOODMAN  
Reg. No. 17,081

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman  
& Chick, P.C.  
767 Third Ave., 25th floor  
New York, NY 10017-2023  
Telephone: (212) 319-4900  
Facsimile: (212) 319-5101

HG/lpv  
Enc.: Check for \$86.00